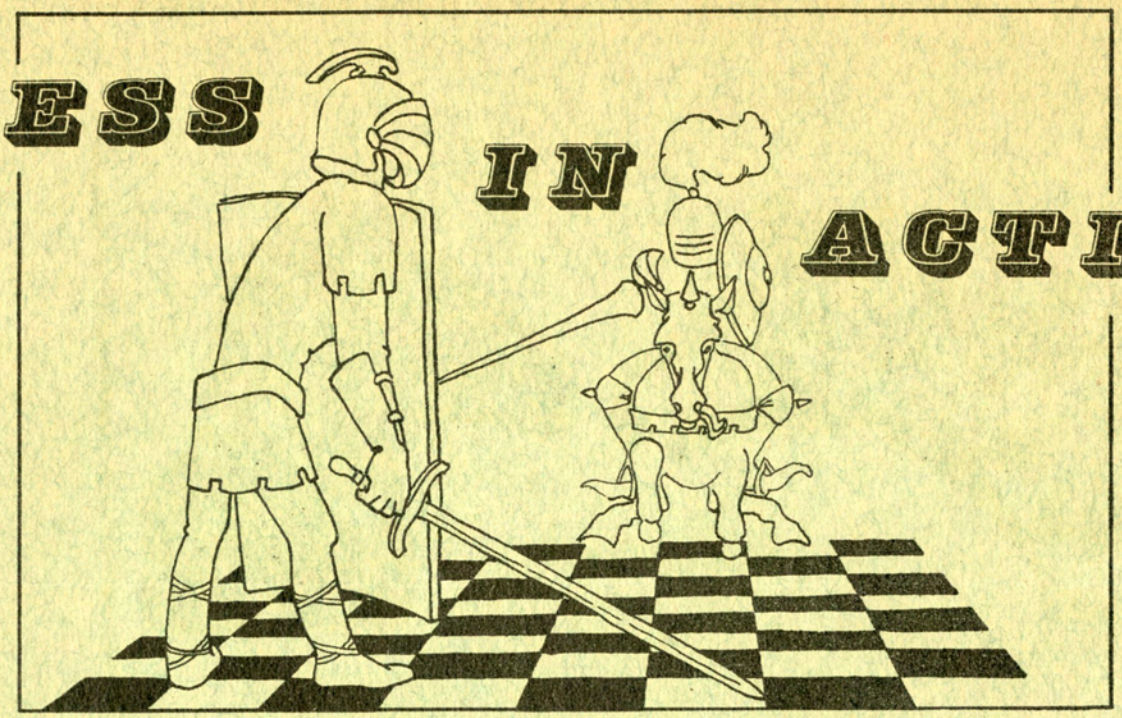


**** SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 1961 ****

Published by Chess Friends of Northern California, a Charter Member of the United States Chess Federation. Edited by John E. Almond, 14 Bates Boulevard, Orinda, California. Issued free to members. Annual subscription $2.00 per annum.

EDITORIAL

Now and again, as is really only to be expected, a Chess Friend will ask 'Why do we not publish more annotated games?" or "Why do we not publish more Chess Problems?"

In answer to these questions, we have often said: "But we do publish annotated games and problems!" Not a complete answer of course but one that usually suffices.

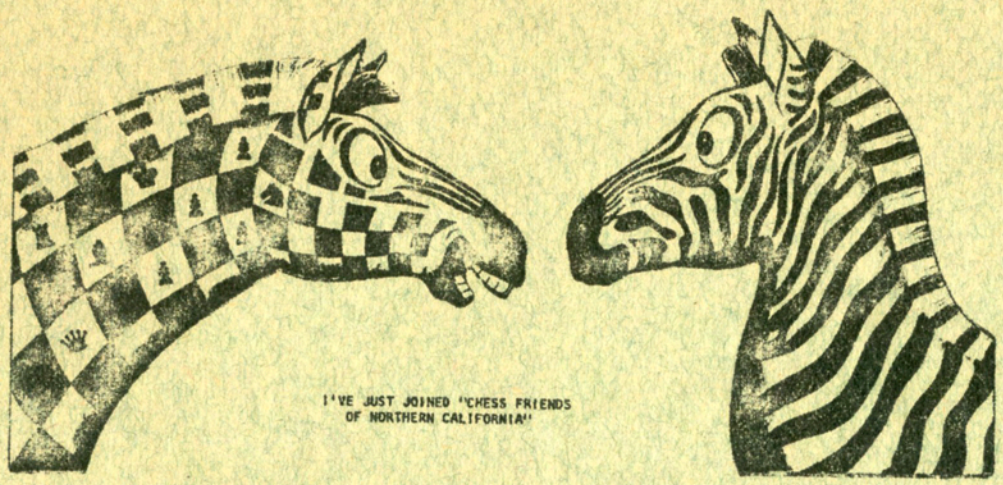
The reason we do not publish MORE annotated games and problems is that:

(1) George Koltanowski publishes admirable annotated games and problems almost every day in the San Francisco Chronicle and it would appear to the editor that this is enough.

(2) For those who require very advanced games and problems in large quantities, there are two other magazines which give more material than the average player could work through in a month. I speak of The British Chess Magazine (in English) and "Europe-Echecs"(in French).

This being the case, we believe we should continue to try and be as original as possible.

"CHESS IN ACTION"'S ART EDITOR GOES BERSERK AMONG THE ADVERTISEMENTS!!!



ADVERTISEMENT

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CHESS FRIENDS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
(They sent me $5.00 back, of course!)
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ADVERTISEMENT

I WAS TIRED OF BEING BROKE

So I started reading

CHESS IN ACTION
14 BATES BLVD.
ORINDA, CALIF.

Acknowledgements: The first adjusted advertisement is, of course, the well-known Bank of America poster. The other two are from "The Wall Street Journal".

THE U.S. OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Held at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel, San Francisco, California

August, 1961

The U.S. Open this year was held in our own fair city of San Francisco. There was a record turn-out and many Chess Friends participated and did extremely well. George Koltanowski, of course, directed the championship and was assisted by William and Florence Stevens.

The winner of the Tournament was Pal Benko, a Hungarian refugee, not long resident in the United States. Zoltan Kovacs, another Hungarian-born chess-player came in second. Arthur Bisguier and Robert Byrne shared the 3rd and 4th positions. Final standings were as follows(we are only giving the names of players of local interest after the 4th position):

Pal Benko.....11 pts.
Zoltan Kovacs.....10
Arthur Bisguier..... 9½
Robert Byrne..... 9½
William Addison..... 9
Joseph G. Sullivan..... 9
Irving Rivise was one of 6 with 8½
Dr. Peter Lapiken, Louis Levy, Henry Gross, and Wade Hendricks were among those with..... 8
Julius Loftsson, Erik Osbun, Tibor Weinberger, Robert Burger, Tom Maser were among those with 7½
Eva Aronsen of Chicago won the top women's place. Ronald Thacker was a Chess Friend who finished with the same number of points 7
Robert Henry, Roy Hoppe, Don Sutherland were among those with 6½
Edgar Bogas, Raymond Cuneo (who gave Pal Benko a tough time in the first round), R. Gross, Carl Huneke, TWELVE-YEAR OLD GEORGE F. KANE, were among those with 6
Mabel Burlingame, Dr. Ben Gross, Dan McLeod, John Oberg were among those with..... 5½
Ben Wong scored..... 4
Lowell Tullis scored..... 2½

We know we have undoubtedly missed someone out we should have mentioned and will get into trouble for it. Forgive us and send us the details and we will mention it in the next issue.

Benko, in winning his first U.S. Open title, established himself among a distinguised company of winners of this tournament, including Fischer, Evans, Kashdan, Steiner, Reshevsky, Horowitz, Fine, and Marshall. His next to the last round victory was a sensation as he employed a Sicilian defense to blitz Irving Rivise of Los Angeles in 16 moves. Here is the game:

	RIVISE (White)	BLENKO (Black)
1.	P-K4	P-QB4
2.	N-KB3	N-QB3
3.	P-Q4	PxP
4.	NxP	P-KN3
5.	N-QB3	B-N2
6.	B-K3	N-B3
7.	B-K2	O-O
8.	O-O	P-Q4
9.	PxP	N-QN5
10.	Q-Q2	N5xQP
11.	NxN	NxN
12.	B-KR6	P-K4
13.	BxB	KxB
14.	KR-Q1(a)	N-B5
15.	N-B3	Q-B3
16.	R-K1	P-K5

White resigns (b)

(a) 14. QR-Q1 would have been better.
(b) After 17. N-Q4, Q-N4; 18.P-KN3 (forced), N-R6ch; followed by QxQ. (Annotations by George Koltanowski).

Here is the move-by-move account of the 12th round game in which Pal Benko defeated Henry Gross to clinch the title:

Benko (White vs. Gross (Black).
1. KN-B3, P-KB4; 2. P-KN3, KN-B3; 3. B-N2, P-K3; 4. P-B4, B-K2; 5. O-O, O-O; 6. P-N3, P-Q3; 7. P-Q4, P-QR4; 8. N-B3, Q-K; 9. B-B4, N-R3; 10. R-K, Q-N3; 11. Q-N, N-K5; 12. NxN, PxN; 13. N-Q2, P-Q4; 14. B-K5, Q-R3; 15. N-B, B-Q2; 16. P-B3, PxP; 17. PxP, PxP; 18. PxP QB-B3; 19. P-B4, BxB; 20. KxB, P-QN3; 21. Q-K4, QR-K; 22. P-QR3, B-B3; 23. Q-N7, BxB; 24. RxB, N-N; 25. QR-K, Q-N3; 26. QxBP, R-B; 27. QxP, R-QB3; 28 Q-N3, P-R5; 29. Q-K3, Q-B7ch. 30. R-K2, QxP; 31. RxP, QR-B; 32. N-Q2, Q-Q4ch. 33. N-B3, N-B3; 34. Q-K4, QxQ; 35. R6xQ, N-R4; 36. P-Q5, N-B5; 37. N-K5, NxP; 38. RxP, N-N4; 39. N-B6, QR-Q.; 40. NxR and Black resigns.

The top women's competitor was Eva Aronson of Chicago who finished with seven points after defeating Ronald Gross of

U.S. CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP - CONTINUED.

Compton, a Master. She received the trophy for the leading lady and also $250.00.

Trophies were also awarded to Benko, Joseph G. Sullivan of Oakridge, Tennessee, who was the top performer in the Expert Class; Rod Freeman of San Diego who was top man in Class A; Robert J. Henry of Lafayette, who was top in Class B; and Walter Cunningham, 17, of Arcadia, the top junior player in the tournament.

CHESS IN ACTION was disappointed in a number of things. In the first place, beautiful Lisa Lane was not there. In the second place, there was no "Trophy for the Player Who Came the Longest Distance", and, in the third place, the players played on official boards with official chessmen. The white pieces looked as if they were made of butterscotch, the black pieces looked like licorice. I am surprised Arthur Bisguier did not complain about the large amount of calories there would have been in such a set!

The even routine of a well-directed tournament was interrupted during the second week by rivetters in the next room. It seemed that the Sheraton-Palace had decided to remodel one of their rooms and apparently had not considered that the sound of electric drills might somewhat disturb the nation's leading chessplayers. However, it was an amusing break and reminded one of the good old Marx Brothers movies.

I think the main thing that local chessplayers learned from this tournament was that Chess Friends were pretty good players and really distinguished themselves in the tournament and that it would be well worth the while of many members to make the effort of playing in a few more national tournaments.

To end, here is one of the most interesting games played in the sixth-round of the Open, played between two residents of Los Angeles County: James Barry of Northridge and Walter Cunningham of Arcadia:

Barry (White) Cunningham (Black)

1. P-Q4, P-K3; 2. P-K4, N-KB3; 3. B-Q3, P-QB4; 4. PxP, BxP; 5. N-KB3; 6. O-O, Q-B2; 7. P-QB3, P-Q4; 8. QN-Q2; 9. Q-K2, P-K4; 10. PxP, NxP; 11. BxPch, K-R1; 12. Q-B4, B-K2; 13. QxN, P-KB4; 14. N-B4, KxB; 15. NB4xP, R-Q1; 16. Q-B7 and Black resigned.

***

THE BLONDE WITH HAIR ON HER CHEST

Strangely enough, I was drawn to play Tasha, in the first round of the French Open Championship. I had fallen madly in love with her before we had played two moves. She was the blondest of blondes and it looked natural, for the hair of her head matched the peach fuzz on her cheeks and the backs of her hands. She had the bluest of blue eyes, a round face, and a well-rounded figure. I was reminded of a little poem by A.P.Herbert, which ran:

"I like them fluffy, I freely confess,
With fluffy soft hair and a fluffy soft dress,
With fluffy soft cheeks like plums on a wall
With a fluffy soft heart and no brains -

Yet Tasha had brains! It took her only fourteen m
strangest defence I had ever played against to bring me
Of course, time was running against me. I could not take
from the girl and was in time trouble after the eighth move.

I spent the remainder of the tournament watching her. She played an amazingly strong game yet quite unconventional, as if she had never studied the theory of the game but had just been born knowing it all - not only knowing what is down in print but knowing much that has never been put down in print and maybe never will.

Tasha won the tournament and she and I became intimate friends. But she would never tell me from where she came. She spoke the King's, rather than the President's, English, without any accent that might give a clue as to her birthplace. I figured that she was probably from one of the more Northern parts of the British Empire and had learnt English as her second tongue.

I followed Tasha around everywhere and during the next few years, I never knew her lose a game of Chess. She won the championships of a number of European countries, the Interzonal, the Candidate's Tournament and was about to play in the World Championship when I asked her to marry me. She refused - very nicely - and then she told me her story. She came from a very small race of people who lived in a very cold part of the world where there was almost nothing to do other than play Chess. She was the Chess Ambassador of this small ethnic group and nothing could shake her from the single-minded ambition to become Chess Champion of the World.

And she DID become Champion of the World, beating the Russian titleholder without a single loss! And then she disappeared as silently as she had appeared.

I know where she is too. Yet I cannot follow her. My doctor has warned me against high altitudes. So I have done my best to forget her. You see, Tasha is an "Abominable Snowwoman".

***

ASSIGNMENT

Gordon Flashsky, one of the Galactic Federation's ace secret agents, was dozing in his one-man spaceship which was coasting at twelve light-years an hour on automatic controls one hundred and eighty nine light-years from Earth when a bell rang on the telecon and the face of Phut Tuohy, his superior, sprang onto the screen.

"Flashsky, I have an important assignment for you," said Phut. "Listen carefully, while I fill you in with all details."

"Shoot", Gordon replied.

"If you remember your Galactic Geography well," Phut went on, "you will recall Constellation #64, generally known as "The Chess Constellation" due to the fact that the inhabitants of its five planets are humanoids that individually resemble Kings, Queens, Bishops, Knights, and Rooks, as in the game. However, the Knights are generally known as the Horses and the Rooks are generally known as the Castles."

"I remember, Sir." said Gordon. "Carry on, Sir."

"None of the five planets have any food and they are entirely reliable on the food products found on the millions of asteroids that surround them (probably the residue of other planets that disintegrated). Many years ago, the five planets had a bitter war to gain these asteroids but the Galactic Federation stepped in, arbitrated the war, and got all five planets to agree that one individual of any of the five races could stake claim for his lifetime, to one asteroid and one asteroid only."

"I remember that well, Sir".

"Fine. Now here is the problem. We have complaints from the Kings, Queens, Bishops, and Castles, that the Horses are breaking the treaty and are claiming asteroids under the false names of non-existent Horses, so as to get more than their fair share of the foodstuffs." Phut coughed and then continued.

"Apart from the fact that we have complaints from four out of the five planets in this constellation, I also have independent incontestable evidence that the Horses are cheating. Now what I want you to do, Flashsky, is to go to the Chess Constellation and confirm the situation or otherwise.

In brief, what you have to do is to investigate why there are so many more Horses' asteroids than there are Horses."

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CHESS IN ACTION is published by "Chess Friends of Northern California". Many magazines are a blend of a variety of oils. CHESS IN ACTION, however, is ONE HUNDRED PERCENT CORN OIL. $2.00 a year to 14 Bates Blvd., Orinda, California

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CHESS FRIENDS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. Field Director and Guiding Genius: Genial Grandmaster George Koltanowski. Tournament Director: William S. Stevens. Secretary-Treasurer: Nina Almond. Editor: John E. Almond. Enthusiastically assisted by: Leah Koltanowski and Florence Stevens. Annual subscription: $2.00 a year (which includes "Chess in Action".) 14 Bates Blvd., Orinda, Calif.

"A PAWN IS A PAWN IS A PAWN IS A PAWN"

John Almond, your Editor, has compiled a collection of his writings and put them together into a 40 page mimeographed booklet with the above title. Something over 12 pages have never appeared before. These include:

"I BOUGHT THREE SLAVEGIRLS!"
"THE CHESS TROPHY"
"THE ICETRAY ALWAYS STICKS TWICE"
"THE FLY WITH THE DUNCAN PHYFE LEGS"
"STAUNTON DINNERPLATE VISITS THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR".

You should not miss S.D.'s account of his Gibraltar trip. Here he meets a chess-playing gorilla called Von Toufriefor who plays a simultaneous exhibition dressed in a German helmet and who goosesteps around the tables!!!! He also gets the only known trophy for the "Player Who Came the Shortest Distance" - he lived in a tree over the patio in which the tournament was held!

"A Pawn" is priced at $1.00 and ALL proceeds go into "Chess Friends of Northern California". It is a fund raising idea and we hope that all Chess Friends will subscribe as we have some ambitious plans ahead of us.

MONTHLY CHESS DINNERS AND/OR LUNCHEONS

Taking a cue from many other clubs and organizations, we have come up with the idea that we should try to promote regular Chess Luncheons or Dinners for the members of Chess Friends. We could switch the venue each month between San Francisco, Oakland, Palo Alto, etc. At each event, there would be a guest speaker who would talk about some aspect of the Royal Game. It would give Chess Friends a chance to meet each other, make more friends, and generally discuss our problems. A suggested maximum of $3.50 is suggested. Please drop the Editor a postcard if you would like to join and receive notices of meetings. To start the ball rolling, let us begin with a Dinner Meeting in San Francisco to be held on FRIDAY THE 13th of OCTOBER. Let's show people that we chessplayers are not superstitious - that we live in a world of pure logic and reasoning. So send in your $3.50s right away. Volunteers as speakers also write in please.

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*"CHESS IN ACTION" - the magazine with *
* that Ring-a-Ding flavor. *
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SAN BRUNO CHESS CLUB NEWS

The San Bruno Chess Club will hold a Round Robin type Annual Tournament starting Monday night, September 18. It will be open to all players in the area, including San Mateo, San Francisco, and Daly City. Dan McLeod of Millbrae was selected to direct the tournament and he will be assisted by a committee consisting of Nancy McLeod, Wade Hendricks, and James Gough.

This is the San Bruno Chess Club's top feature of the year. Games will be played at Parkside School, San Bruno.

At the conclusion of the August meet, a 10-second Lightning Chess Tournament was held. James Gough of San Francisco emerged the victor by winning his section and defeating Dick Farris of San Bruno who had won his section. This was the third straight Lightning Championship for Jim - a new club record.

GEORGE KOLTANOWSKI TO GIVE CHESS LESSONS

The YWCAs in San Francisco and San Rafael are starting a course in Chess for both beginners and advanced players. The S.F. Course starts on Monday, Sept. 18. Full information may be had from PRospect 5-6500. The course in Marin will be held at San Rafael High School, rm. 35, on Tuesdays, starting Sept. 19. Phone GL 6-0782. While you may not read this announcement until after the classes have begun, it may still be possible to register.

A KOLTY SIMULTANEOUS AT THE WALNUT CREEK FESTIVAL

Something new is going to be added to the annual Walnut Festival, held every year in Walnut Creek. This year, the festival is from September 23-24 and, on Sunday, September 24, from 5 to 7 p.m. George Koltanowski will play 30 boards simultaneously in the ball park. Thomas Stamper of Walnut Creek is in charge of operations.

KOLTY CHESS CLUB NEWS

The Fall Championships of the Kolty Chess Club will soon be starting. New members are always welcome. The club meets each Thursday evening from 6.45 p.m. on, at the Pacific Heights School, Jackson and Webster Streets, San Francisco. Bring board and men.

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READ "EUROPE-ECHECS" INFO. FROM EDITOR.

SONOMA

The Eleventh Annual Open Air Festival was held, as usual, in the most beautiful weather, in Sonoma'a historic plaza. The crowd this year broke all records for there were no less than 319 participants in the 80 different sections!

The trophy for the player coming the furthest distance was won by Charles Morrin of China Lake (Kern County) and the trophy for the club having most members attending was awarded to the Kolty Chess Club of San Francisco. This same club also won the General Dean Trophy for the best score by at least four of its members. This is the first time this club has won this trophy. The USO club of Monterey received a trophy for having the second largest number of members attending.

Other awards and their winners were: Women's Championship Trophy, Mrs. Pat Gowen, Mill Valley; junior trophy, Richard Ligda, Los Altos; A Trophy, Ronald Thacker, Richmond; B trophy, Fred J. Cook, Oakland; C trophy, Harold Woest, San Francisco.

Twelve year old George Kane of Redwood City won his A Division section and then took up the cudgels against 20 players in simultaneous play (See another page for how well this second "G.K." did in the U.S. Open). The Northern California Junior Champion received a special trophy.

The two big prizes of the day were won by R.R.Powers of Santa Rosa (Free Matson Line Trip for two to Los Angeles and flight back) and William West of Oakland (Paul Masson Wine Cellar Starter).

Section winners were:
Thomas Angle, Suisun; Allan Chuck, S.F.; Mike Morris, S.F.; Jon Newhall, Berkeley; John Leonard, Santa Rosa; Richard Ligda, Los Altos; Dave Coll, Alameda; R. Clear, Mill Valley' Eric Weinberg, S.F.; Jack Laurie, Mill Valley; Helen Wallace, S.F.; J.Jaffray, Miranda' Mrs James Gowen, Mill Valley; Herman Ballert, Sonoma; Bruce Lewis, Seaside; G. Lydeard, S.F.; Max Grosz, Albany; Sid Rubin, Palo Alto; Carlos Vargas, S.F.; Bertram Weill, S.S.F.; John Blackstone, Saratoga; Harold Woest, S.F.; Ernest Anders, S.F.; Walter Blohm, Novato; Robert Burger, Lafayette; R. Gyving, Santa Rosa; Arthur Rains, Sunnyvale; John Forester, S.F.; Fred Cook, Oakland; H. Kennedy, Oakland; A. Knutson, Berkeley; Edgar Bogas, Stanford; L. Noveshen, S.F.; Frank Cross, Berkeley; George Kane, Redwood City; O. Gebhardt, Oakland; Jules Kalisch, S.F.; James Stevenson, Hayward; Norman Babbitt, Lafayette; Dan Blaga Sr., Novato; A. Pretzer, San Leandro; Sam Bettencourt, San Francisco; H. Keibler, S.F.; A. LaRue, Los Altos; Frank Berry, Los Altos, M. McLennon, Oakland; P. Flannery, Mt. View; Gus Wollman, Petaluma; R. Finley, San Rafael; L. Thunen, Ukiah; H. Moritz, San Mateo; Dr. Ben Gross, S.F.; J. Barlow, San Jose; C. Senchouoff, S.F.; A. Basey, Mill Valley; O. Hernandez, Seaside; Robert Henry, San Mateo; J. Packard, Vallejo; A. Adelberg, Berkeley; Larry Sherwood, Palo Alto; M. Quinlivan, Oakland; F. Krueger, Richmond; Paul Vayssie; H. Poschmann, Oakland; D. Whitney, Albany; B. Dobsevage, Castro Valley; Joe Vloemans, S.F.; William Kime, S.F.; Wm. Wehrmeister, Jr., S.F.; Patrick Rivette, S.F.; Bob Geier, San Mateo; George Farly, Berkeley; H. Seghetti, S.F.; Ronald Thacker, Richmond; J. Healy, San Mateo; Karl D. Lyon, San Francisco.

The Festival was directed, as always, by George Koltanowski, ably assisted by Leah Koltanowski and Florence Stevens. Nina Almond, the new Secretary-Treasurer of "Chess Friends" was kept busy all day collecting dues and roping in new members while the editor spent most of his time pinning "WANTED" signs on all the trees. (I dreamed I was WANTED to play first-board for the Coyote Creek Chess Club in my Maidenpawn Bra!)

It was just for such events as this that, some years ago, Joaquin Murietta and others of his ilk, dared to come down from the mountains to the beautiful city of Sonoma.

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Being a real believer in the superiority of the Anglo-Saxon nations, even if they are lousy at chess, your peripatetic patzer thinks that the following article should be published while Russia exists. As the continued existence of that nation looks more doubtful every week, we hasten to comply.

STAUNTON DINNERPLATE IN RUSSIA

My host, in Russia, was a delightful English-speaking chessplayer named Igor Gromsk. He was quite brilliant but of the romantic school rather than the mathematical. As such, he talked more like a metaphysicist than a logician. "Chess", he told me, "calls for the sould of a poet and lures on the imagination."

We took part in a very important Chess Tournament situated at a venue somewhere between Omsk and Tomsk (Whenever the Russians took you anywhere, they would blindfold you, spin your around, and take the blindfold off. You really never quite knew where you where!)

No one took any notice of Igor Gromsk (pronounced, incidentally, like a footfall in crisp snow) because they knew his ebullience and love of trying to pull off a brilliancy would, as usual, be his outdoing. Of course, he might get another brilliancy prize but they weren't going to hang around his games too much to see. Instead, they were much more interested in watching the games of the favorites:Dus Choklatmaltski and Dandrofski. There were many famous chessplayers present.

Besides those mentioned above, there was old Igor Blastovsky and Boris Gufinov, whom we met before in Paris; the were Almondarevsky and Almondarenko, two distant cousins of the Editor of Chess in Action; there were Blumenorfel, Sacha Burlap, and Blunderovsky. Among the women, were Katrinka Katzlaff (Russian) and Pinot Chardonnay (France). I was disappointed that the up and coming American girl, Beverly Hills, and the Italian Lady Champion, both whom had stated their intentions to be present, were unable to make it.

Just before the first round, Igor suffered an accident. Someone had left a chess clock on the florr and Igor trod on it and smashed it to pieces. In so doing, he twisted his ankle and was in great pain for the remainder of the tournament. As it happened, this turned out for the good for he was so pain stricken that he just sat and played good solid chess.

He liquidated Kerplonsky, a local Expert, in the first round, beat Popovsky without difficulty in the second. In the third round, Nodgudanov proved not good enough and lost to Igor after 23 moves. Igor dispatched Katzlaff so fast that she disappeared laughingly hysterically. I thought he might be bothered by Pinot Chardonnay in the fifth round for it was rumoured that "her lips were sweeter than wine and she was not always too ethical about how she won. However, he polished her off without trouble. Blumenorfel played blooming awful in the sixth. In the seventh, Igor was in difficulty on quite a few occasions, playing Dandrofski, until someone opened the window and allowed the cold wind from the steppes to blow away the bits of scurf that made the board look like "Spatter" linoleum.

And so, to everyone's surprise, Igor Gromsk walked (or I should say "limped") away with the Championship and a colossal trophy which, thanks to Russian ingenuity, we were told, could easily be converted into a 32 cup Samovar.

Oh, and incidentally, Gromsk is pronounced like a heavy footfall on a delicate chess clock!

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BLUNDER

The President of Planet X summoned his Chief of Staff. "You have had Planet Earth under supervision for some time now. Do you not think it is time we captured a couple of specimens to see what degree of intelligence they have?" The Chief of Staff nodded assent.

"I have been thinking exactly the same thing and, indeed, have a plan with me now. I have discovered that the more intelligent members of the Earthmen play a game called "Chess" that calls for great intelligence. There is, at this time, a Chess Tournament going on at a town called San Francisco, in America. My plan is that we should send one of our flying saucers with invisability control to pick up a couple of the contestants. What do you think?"

"An excellent idea," the President agreed. "Put the plan into effect right now."

That night, a flying saucer set off for Earth. It arrived on the following afternoon and, after putting the invisability controls on, landed on the beach near Golden Gate park, San Francisco. Its two occupants, who understood English, then set their radios to the local wavelengths. It was not long before they received the news that the Chess Tournament was being held at the Jack Tar Hotel.

Suddenly, they picked up another broadcaster. Unbeknown to them, he was the commentator on the Elephant Train that wandered around Fleishacker Zoo. His spiel was well interlarded with little jokes.

"Now here are the zebras. You may not know this but the markings on no two zebras are the same just as no two humans have the same fingerprints. This has tended to keep down the crime rate among zebras."

"This bear down in the pit, is just cleaning up the small children who have fallen in during the day".

And then came his pet joke as he approached "Monkey Rock": "We are now approaching the Jack Tar Hotel." It got the usual hearty laughter from the occupants of the train.

Back on Planet X that night, the Chief of Staff was closetted with the President. We have nothing to fear from Earth. Their intelligence quotients are 17 points below the minimum. Indeed it is incredible that they have been able to place rockets into orbit around their planet.

Back at the Zoo the Zoo Director was holding a staff conference. "There is absolutely no doubt that two monkeys disappeared off Monkey Island this afternoon. I insist on a complete investigation. You, John, will be the chairman. Now ....."

****

QUOTATION OF THE MONTH:

"Behind every successful man there is a woman who said all along he was wrong."

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CAISSA'S COTERIE

CORRESPONDENCE CHESS WITH A DIFFERENCE

Because of a steady demand for correspondence chess, the Editor has, from time to time, endeavoured to organize games and tournaments. Unfortunately, due to pressure of business and such, he has been very lax in properly following through with plans. To this he now apologies to all concerned and hopes that they will all forgive him. He now believes that he has a plan that he will definitely be able to organize so that all matters are properly followed through to a conclusion.

The group calling themselves "Caissa's Coterie" offer correspondence chess in the following three sections.

SECTION A

You play a two-game contest with the chess playmate of your dreams - the beautiful Princeza Katarina Kittikin of Chão de Maças. She sends you her moves on scented billets-doux! You have the white pieces on one board, the black on the other. Those who beat the Princeza by scoring most points out of the two games enters a Round-Robin or Knock-Out Final for the Princeza Katarina Golden Queen Trophy.

Entrance Fee $1.00. Final Qualifiers an extra $1.50.

SECTION B

Play three games in your favorite opening or defense, as either Black on all boards or White on all boards, against Sheik Ali Shatranji, the "Praying-Mantis" of "Le Dix-neuiveme Oasis".

Entrance Fee $1.00.

SECTION C

Your old favorite "The Spook" is back to take the white pieces against you in three games in the French Defence.

Unless specifically requested, the first three moves in all three games, are to be:

1.	P-K4,	P-K3
2.	P-Q4	P-Q4
3.	N-QB3	B-N5

Depending upon demand, other sections will be opened up from time to time. All members must be members of Chess Friends of Northern California, in good standing (that means you have paid your dues!) All those who join one or more of the sections will be registered as members of Caissa's Coterie and, whenever we get requests for correspondence chess, we will send out lists of the members.

As and when games are completed, we will publish them in CHESS IN ACTION and generally try and keep members of the Coterie up-to-date with what is going on in local correspondence chess.

Incidentally, all proceeds are the proceeds of "Chess Friends of Northern California" and will be placed into a special fund out of which trophies and 3¢ postcards will be bought.

S O V I E T M I N I A T U R E S

Annotated by P.H. Clarke - From the British Chess Magazine of February, 1959

Game 3 - Polish Opening. Championship of White Russia, 1958. White: Sokolsky, Black: Strugatch.

1. P-QKt4, P-K4; 2. B-Kt2, P-KB3; 3. P-K4, BxP; 4. B-B4,

It is logical that, after Black has played P-KB3, White should try to turn the game into a sort of King's Pawn. Black, for his part, must strive to maintain the strong-point he has set up at K4. He does not, however, and the result is disaster.

4. ..., KKt-B3; 5. BxB!

To recover the pawn by 5. BxKt, RxB; 6. Q-R5 ch would abandon the initiative and thus be quite out of keeping with White's plans.

5. ..., PxP?; 6. Kt-KR3, KKt-K2; 7. KtxP, Kt-R4?

Black is ambitiously aiming either to exchange the annoying white-squared Bishop or to force it off the diagonal. While trying this, he leaves himself open to a crushing attack. He ought to have tried to gain some relief by 7. ..., P-Q4.

8. BxP!, R-B1;

Neither Bishop may be taken, e.g. 8. ..., PxB; 9. Q-R5 ch. etc., or 8. ..., Kt.XB; 9. Kt-R5!. KtxB;

Obviously not 9. ..., PxB; 10. Kt-Kt7 mate, but if 9. ..., RxB there could follow 10. KtxR ch, PxKt; 11. Q-R5 ch, Kt-Kt3; 12. B-Kt8!, Q-K2 (or 12. ..., K-B1; 13. QxP, Kt-K4; 14. 0-0, with a winning attack); 13. ... QxP ch; 14. K-Q1 is certainly no better); 14 BxP and White wins.

10. KtxP ch, K-B2; 11. 0-0, K-Kt1; 12 Q-R5, RxB;

Forced, since White threatened both 13. Q-Kt5 and 13. Kt-K6.

13. RxR, Kt-Kt3; 14. RxKt!, PxR; 15. QxP, K-R1;

If 15. ..., Kt-K4, then 16. Q-Kt3, Q-B3; 17. Kt-R5 ch. Q-Kt3; 18. QxKt, P-Q3; 19. Q-Kt3, remaining 2 pawns up.

16. Kt-K8!, Q-K2;

Or 16. ..., B-B4ch; 17. K-R1, B-Q5; 18. Q-R5 ch, K-Kt1; 19. Q-Q5 ch and White wins.

17. Kt-B6, Black resigned.

P.H.Clarke acknowledges indebtedness to master Sokolsky's own notes in Shakhmaty v. SSSR, No. 8, 1958.

Game 4 - Sicilian Defence, Minsk, 1957 White: Yukhtman, Black: Roizman.

1. P-K4, P-QB4; 2. P-Q4, PxP; 3. P-QB3, PxP; 4. KtxP, P-Q3; 5. Kt-B3, Kt-QB3; 6. B-QB4, P-K3; 7. 0-0, B-K2; 8. B-B4, P-K4?; 9. B-K3, Kt-B3; 10. Kt-KKt5!

The attack commences; from here onwards to the very end, White pursues his object with remarkable directness and purpose.

10. ..., 0-0;

Owing to his poor development, the typical resource of 10. ... P-Q4 would be dangerous, e.g. 11. PxP, Kt-QR4 (11. ..., KtxP?; 12. KtxKt, BxKt; 13. BxB, QxB; 14. Kt-B7 ch); 12. B-Kt5 ch, Kt-Q2; 13. QKt-K4, with a strong attack.

11. Q-Kt3, P-Q4;

Now this is very plausible, and possibly Black expected to show up the attack as premature. Still, there were two preferable defences:

(i) 11. ..., Kt-QR4 and

(ii) 11. ..., Q-K1

12. KtxQP!, KtxKt;

The text move wins material by force but White has a nasty surprise ready.

13. KtxBP!

The first wave goes in; before Black's defences can be finally breached White must open the KB file and he at once proceeds to do so. Black can still cut his losses to a pawn by 13. ...,Kt-QR4; 14. KtxQ, KtXQ; 15. BxKt ch, K-R1 but he opts for all or nothing.

13. ..., RxKt; 14. BxKt, Q-K1; 15. P-B4, B-B3; 16. PxP, KtxP; 17. B-Q4!, K-R1;

Loss of material now cannot be avoided.

18. BxR, KtXB;

If 18. ..., QxB, then 19. BxKt wins a piece in view of 19. ..., QxQ; 20. PxQ, BxB; 21. R-B8 mate. The attack on KB7 has served its purpose, and now White finishes prettily with a different idea.

19. RxB!, QxP;

Or 19. ..., PxR; 20. BxP ch, K-Kt1; 21. Q-Kt3 ch, Kt-Kt4; 22. QxKt ch, K-B2; 23 Q-R5 ch, K-B1; 24. B-Kt7 ch, K-K2; 25 Q-Kt5 ch, K-Q3; 26 R-Q1 ch. etc.

20. QxKt!, QxB ch; 21. K-R1, P-KR3; 22. Q-K8 ch. Black resigned.

A real triumph for White's plans.

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